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INFORMATION REPORT

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PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

USSR

SUBJECT

Port Information: Batumi (harbor security, small craft, piers, loading of benzol, a radar station; chart of port.)

DATE DISTRIBUTED

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT #

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO CIA FOR IAC DISSEMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3 c OF NSCID #7 (DIO, 8ND No 60-58).7

1. [REDACTED]
2. Alphabetical Designators In connection with information contained herein, specific points of interest are noted [REDACTED] and referred to in this report by the following alphabetical designators:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. Deep water area | M. Two large cranes |
| B. Tug engaged | N. Several small cranes |
| C. Berth | O. Wharf under construction |
| D. Mooring buoy removed | P. 10 PT boats |
| E. Area does not exist | Q. Six ships |
| F. Slow speed to this point | R. Soviet passenger ship |
| G. Pilot aboard, incoming | S. Soviet passenger ship |
| H. Pilot discharged, outgoing | T. Restricted area |
| I. Movement of swells | U. Radar station |
| J. Sentry post | V. Passenger railroad station |
| K. Shallow water | W. Refinery area |
| L. Benzol factory | X. Coasting harbor |

[REDACTED] in outer harbor six merchant ships. Vessels anchoring in harbor are instructed to line up with the 65' radar beacon and BW buoy and drop anchor. [REDACTED] a spot 65 fathoms deep

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Soviet ships anchor in a line inside the line of foreign ships.

25X1

5. Pilot Data and Weather

a. [redacted] there were only three pilots in Batumi.

25X1

b. [redacted] the weather was good and the sea calm. Later it began to rain and sleet. Temperature remained about 32°F. [redacted] a 40 MPH wind was blowing from the northwest. This northwest wind is particularly hazardous to ships in the harbor because it causes a dangerous swell

25X1

25X1

25X1

6. Controls

a. [redacted]

25X1

immigration and customs officials were dressed in neat and clean uniforms. [redacted]

25X1

b. A soldier was stationed at the foot of the gangway. He wore an overcoat and fur cap and carried a pistol. Guards conducted themselves in a business-like fashion. [redacted] they would accept no gifts.

25X1

A sentry post is located at designator J through which it is necessary to pass when entering or leaving the berthing area.

25X1

c. [redacted] small PT boats in subject port which occasionally patrolled the harbor area. These patrol craft were grey, flew a naval ensign [redacted] and were lightly armed. [redacted] these vessels were always seen alone and are probably the same as those reported in paragraph 9 below.

25X1

25X1

25X1

7. Harbor Craft [redacted] three steam-powered tugs operating in subject port. Two were small, very old, not very powerful and can be used only in good weather. [redacted] No military personnel were seen aboard the tugs, and no other harbor craft were observed.

25X1

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8. Berth Diagram [redacted] illustrates the berthing area, designator [redacted] 25X1
 C. [redacted] five berths located on the mole.
 Raised 8" pipes run along the mole. [redacted] water depth along the mole and in the inner harbor is about 32', except for the shallow water area [redacted] 25X1
 Only small vessels were being worked in that area. Benzol came directly by pipe from the benzol factory [redacted] 25X1
 Maximum speed of loading benzol is 250 metric tons per hour. At first the benzol was loaded at the maximum speed, but later the rate of loading dropped to 100 metric tons per hour. [redacted] the decline was due to low tanks at the factory. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] two large grab, [redacted]
 portal cranes [redacted] two loads from these cranes were sufficient to fill a truck. [redacted] several smaller cranes. [redacted]
 [redacted] the concrete wharf [redacted] was in the final stages of reconstruction. Chandlery was available at berth but no supplies were purchased. Good water was taken [redacted] from a hose on the pier. [redacted] 25X1
9. Naval Vessels About 10 small PT boats were observed at the naval base, [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] No activity was observed aboard these boats nor on or around the naval base. [redacted] the buildings on the base [redacted] small, wooden, and "ordinary" looking. [redacted] 25X1
10. Merchant Vessels [redacted] six tankers and small freighters waiting [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] to enter the harbor. An unspecified number of Soviet ships were waiting inside the line of foreign ships. Vessels were allowed to enter the harbor according to the sequence of their arrival. No preference was given to Soviet ships. [redacted] 25X1
 although there was usually a line of ships waiting, all the berths were never occupied. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] in port
 nine-thousand-ton Polish freighter was present. Two Soviet passenger ships were berthed [redacted] The ship berthed [redacted] had tourists aboard from East Germany. [redacted]
11. Shore Activities [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] only two restaurants in subject town. Only beer, vodka, and champagne were served. The quality of the beer was rated poor. [redacted] good beaches in the area, however. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Batumi was just getting over a siege of Asian flu at that time. [redacted]
 [redacted] large number of female doctors in Batumi.
12. Miscellaneous
- a. [redacted] single jet planes with swept wings flying at an altitude at which they could be heard easily. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
- b. Area [redacted] is restricted and enclosed by a rail fence. No guards were observed about the fence, but military personnel believed [redacted] to be army personnel, were sighted in the area. [redacted] a radar station with a 5' x 3' screen oriented toward the sea. From the base of the radar support to the top of the screen is only 10 feet. The radar is the scanner type [redacted] and is painted light brown. The screen and low buildings surrounding it are so constructed that they are camouflaged, and it is impossible to see the screen from the sea. [redacted] the radar station [redacted] at a nearby beach [redacted] the screen was not moving [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] there were gun emplacements similar to German bunkers and pill boxes along the coast of the restricted area and in front of the radar. [redacted] 25X1
- c. [redacted] a small, old, and decrepit passenger railroad station [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] both steam and diesel railroad engines in the railroad yard, [redacted] believed to be electrified. [redacted] 25X1

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d. [redacted] old and unkempt appearance of the refinery in area [redacted] tanks in that area were low, rusty, and need a paint job. The refinery installation is relatively small [redacted] and no new construction was observed in that area. 25X1

e. [redacted] on several occasions [redacted] the Coasting Harbor, the area is deserted. There were no ships, boats, or any activity of any kind there. 25X1

f. Loudspeakers are spaced around the harbor area. and these blare music from early morning until late at night. [redacted] no political speeches on these loudspeakers. 25X1

g. [redacted] the Soviets' apparent pleasure in smoking US cigarettes. However, no Soviet will smoke a US cigarette within view of another Soviet. 25X1

[redacted] The Soviets expressed a curiosity to examine US magazines also. 25X1

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